What pains do ſome young perſons take, to dreſs out and deck their mortal bodies, to gain admiration and the compliments of thoſe around them, little thinking on that ſolemn truth, they ſoon muſt be food for worms, and the ſubjects of putrefaction; yes, *the body muſt return to the earth as it was, and the ſoul to GOD who gave it**; then how neceſſary and momentous is that too frequently neglected work, to

Improve your time, while in your pow'r,
And be prepar'd for Death each hour.

Few, very few indeed of the young, healthy, faſhionable, and gay

* Eccleſiaſtes, xii. 7.



gay, ever turn their thoughts to what they *were created for, what they now truly are, and what they are long muſt be*; deeply engaged in the purſuits of pleaſure and amuſements, and loſt to every thing of a ſolid and ſerious nature, the younger part of both ſexes live as if they never were to die; regardleſs of their Maker, their own immortal ſouls, and the awful conſideration of a future ſtate; but ſurely it is not the wiſeſt part to act, to put far off the evil day, and entirely forget the concerns of the world to come, when we are well aſſured,

Death is, of all mankind, the common doom,
And think or not think of it, ſure will come.



BOB SHORT *The Country 'Squire* LONDON, 1781 HASKOLL COLLECTION, THE BODLEIAN LIBRARY Octavo